

Volunteering

- 1 Read the information about volunteering. In pairs talk about any information which surprises / does not surprise you.

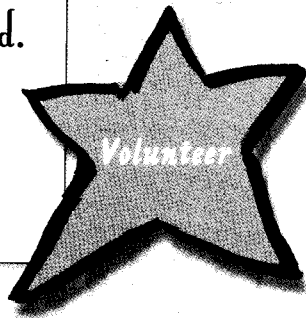
'Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help.'

Heather French Henry, Miss America 2000

vol•un•teer (v) to offer help without expecting payment

**Helping is its own reward.
It's surprising how it just
feels right.'**

Paul Newman, U.S. actor



The volunteer rate in the USA is declining, from around 29% of the population in 2003 to around 25% in 2013.

The United States has a long history of volunteering. Nearly a quarter of the population, that's around 62 million people, are volunteers. Around 18.5% of people between 20 and 24 volunteer each year.



Volunteering can include driving a neighbour to hospital, serving meals to the homeless or teaching disadvantaged children. Some of the most popular volunteer activities are fundraising, food distribution, collecting or distributing clothing or working in sports or art groups.

vol•un•teer (n) someone who is prepared to do a job without being paid

- 2 Imagine you are in charge of recruiting new volunteers for a cancer charity. A potential volunteer has phoned you to ask if you have any vacancies. In pairs write the questions to her replies below.

- My uncle was recently diagnosed with cancer. I would like the chance to help others in the same situation. I'm also looking forward to working as part of a team.
- You raise money to help support people whose relatives are ill with cancer.
- I can only help out for one afternoon a week.
- I love playing on my X-box or keeping in touch with friends!
- I'm really good at playing the guitar.
- I can walk, but if the work is far from here, I'd need a lift.

- 3 Now imagine the volunteer has some questions for you. How will you answer them?

- What do you expect of me?
- What can I expect to get from doing this work?
- How many hours do you expect me to volunteer each week?

